(c) Development work of Trishul, Akash and Nag Missile Systems is expected to be completed by December, 2003 and December, 2004 respectively after which missiles will be ready for User's trial, production and induction. Development work of Agni-1 has been completed and missile is going to be tested once more before getting into production and induction. BrahMos supersonic cruise missile is likely to enter production phase by end of 2003 and it will be inducted by 2004.

(d) and (e) Design, development and flight test of missile system is a continuous process based on strategic requirements of Indian Armed Forces and security requirements of Nation.

Development of light aircraft capable of being accommodated on small aircraft carrier

770. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE to pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Scientists of the Defence Research and Development Organisation are working on a light aircraft which can be accommodated on a small aircraft carrier;

(b) if so, whether a tentative time frame for its production has been finalised; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Project Defination Phase (PDP) and Pre Project Phase (PPP) for developing Naval Variant of Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) has been completed. LCA (Navy) Full Scale Engineering Development (FSED) proposal is under consideration of Government which include:

(i) Design, development, building and ground testing of two aircraft and a structural test specimen.

(ii) Carrying out flight testing of approximately 400 hours towards operational clearance.